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"The Ostiaks have two stringed instruments (inventions of their own): one with strings, called 'dombra' (the name is said to be akin to the 'tom-bora' of the Magyars); another, with eight strings, called 'naruista juch chotuing' ('chotuing' = 'swan'). In Russian folk-songs the comparison of instruments with aquatic birds frequently occurs, particularly in the bride-songs. The swan especially is considered to have the most silvery voice of all animals; even the Chinese goose, 'ritais roi gus,' is called 'swonrci,' *i. e.* possessing a beautiful voice. Mr. Erman supposes that the Russian harp, 'gusli,' has its name from 'gus' ('goose'), like the 'chotuing' of the Ostiaks, from swan. I may mention that in the Slavonian, too, 'husa' means 'goose,' and 'husle,' a 'violin.'" In the Nipissing dialect of Algonkian the word *nikam*, "to sing," literally means "to talk goose," from *nika*, "wild goose." Hence, *nikamowin*, "song," signifies literally "wild goose language." We ourselves call a celebrated singer a "nightingale" or a "mockingbird," a poet, a "swan," etc.

SUBSIDY TO "WALLONIA." — The provincial council of Liège voted in 1901 and 1902 a subsidy of 300 francs a year to "Wallonia," the Belgian journal of folk-lore and folk-literature, published at Liège under the editorship of M. Oscar Colson.

LUCKY AND UNLUCKY DAYS. — From church documents of 1590-1591 A. D., in the State Archives at Mons, Belgium, "Wallonia" (vol. xi. 1903, pp. 129, 130) cites the following list of "les jours heureux et perilleux de l'année revelez par l'ange de Dieu au bon Job": Lucky days — January 3, 13; February 5, 25; March 1, 8, 30; April 5, 22, 29; May 7, 15, 17; June 6; July 2, 13, 14; August 12; September 7, 23, (and another day, — the MSS. has only xx — the rest being torn off); October 4, 15 (torn page here also); November 13, 19; December 18, 26. Unlucky days: January 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 15; February 6, 17, 18; March 6, 16, 17, 18; April 7, 15, 17; May 6, 17; June 6; July 15, 18; August 19, 20; September 16, 18; October 6; November 15, 16; December 6, 7, 11. These "revelations" are said to have been the guide in life of Job. On the lucky days it is well to buy, sell, plant, build; to travel as a pilgrim or as a merchant; children born on such days will never be poor or incur danger, and children sent to school will reach their vocation; merchants beginning their business on such days will not suffer loss, but profit much. The lucky days are said to number 28; the unlucky are 30. The 6th of June is, apparently, both lucky and unlucky.

WALLOON DICTIONARY. — The first volume (A — L) of the "Dictionnaire Wallon-Français" (Dialecte Namurois) by Léon Pirsoul, appeared at Malines in 1902, forming a book of 392 pages. The dictionary is not altogether exhaustive, as M. A. Maréchal points out in "Wallonia" (vol. xi. p. 133).

FOLK-LORE EXPOSITION. — From "Wallonia" (vol. xi. p. 170) we learn

that the recent Exposition of Flemish and Walloon Folk-Lore, organized at Brussels by the "Conservatoire de la Tradition Populaire," was a great success. MM. Elskamp and De Bruyn had their interesting collections there. Dolls and playthings of fifty years ago, puppets, local sweets and candies for children, comic and naïve signs, kermess-advertisements, folk-pottery, etc., were exhibited. There was a species division for folk-medicine, where were to be found eelskin to cure rheumatism, ashes of St. John's fire, coffin nails for toothache, deer horn for heart burn, and many other rustic remedies. Other corners were reserved for religious images, local cults, folk-religion, etc.

DOLL EXHIBITION. — In June, 1903, there was held at Liège an "international Exhibition of Dolls," organized to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the foundation of "Les Amis du Vieux Liège" Club.

COUNTING-OUT RHYMES. — From the South Russian Jews Dr. S. Weissenberg records (*Globus*, vol. lxxxiii. 1903, p. 318) the following : —

1. Une bene ress  
Quinter quinter shess  
Une bene rabe  
Quinter quinter shabe.
2. Eins zwei drai  
Ruscher ruscher rai  
Ruscher ruscher  
Platzer tuscher  
Eins zwei drai
3. Eins zwei drai  
Oder lider lai  
Oken boken  
Zwei die loken  
Zirl Perl  
Duks avois.

These rhymes are used to arrange for place in games, etc.

*A. F. C.*